MARVEL
3
LGY#653
GERRY DUGGAN
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THE INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
60
YEARS

WHEN MULTI-BILLIONAIRE INDUSTRIALIST TONY STARK, INVENTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE, DONS HIS SOLAR-CHARGED, STEEL-MESH ARMOR, HE BECOMES A HIGH-TECH WARRIOR—THE WORLD'S GREATEST HUMAN FIGHTING MACHINE!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

"THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF TONY STARK"

CHAPTER THREE

PREVIOUSLY...

Tony Stark used to have it all. But after spending his entire fortune to take black-market weapons off the streets, all Stark is left with is his Iron Man armor.

Now Tony has a target on his back. Someone behind the scenes has been plotting Tony's downfall—from bombing his home to sending assassins after him.

But unfortunately, that means those closest to him are caught in the crossfire!

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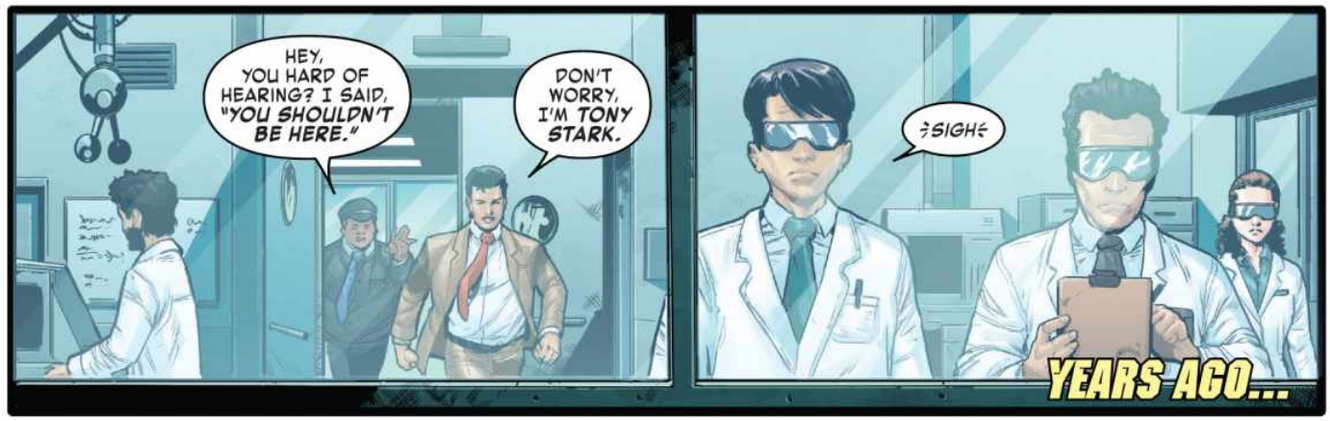
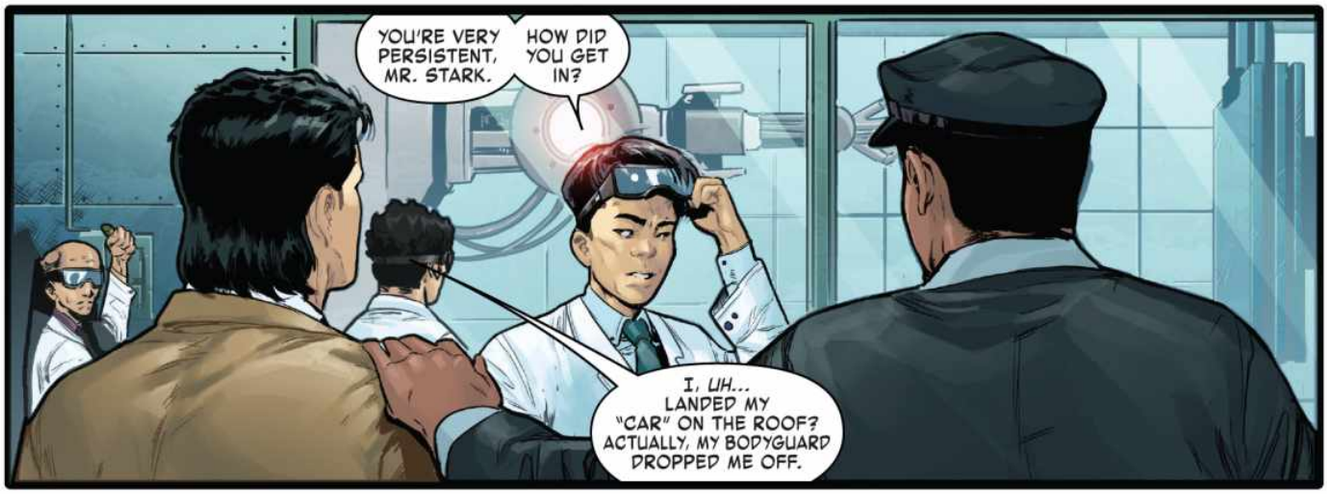
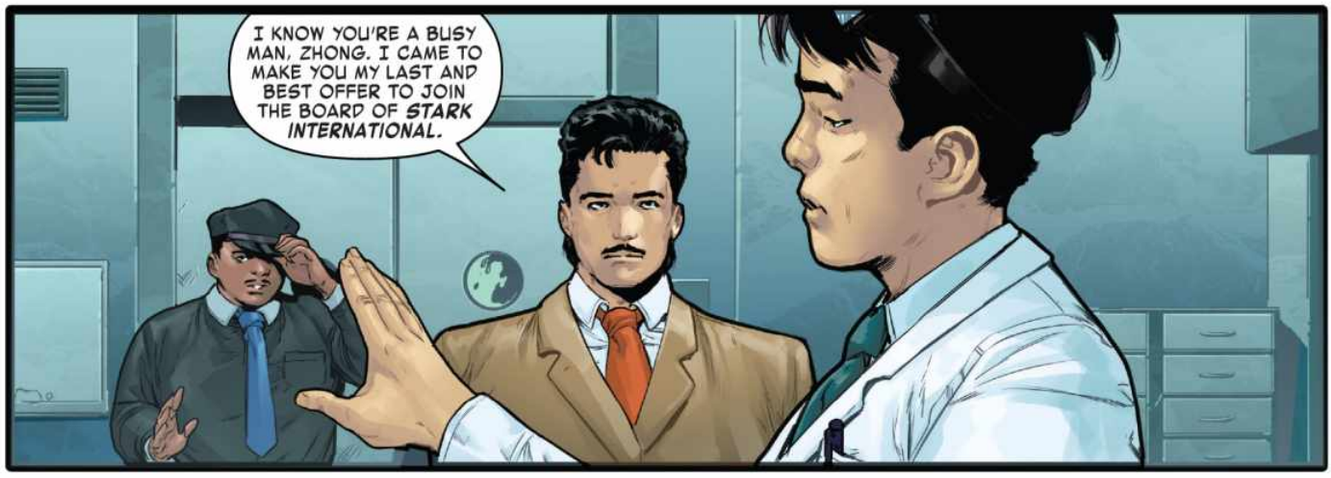
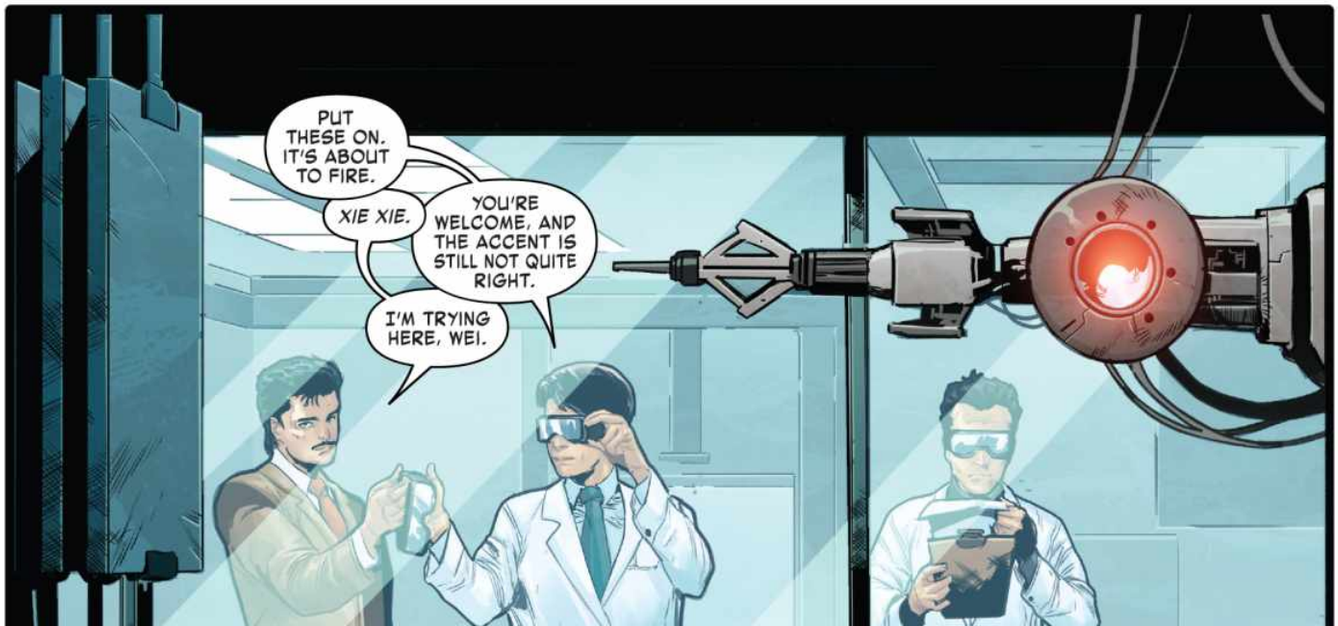
IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

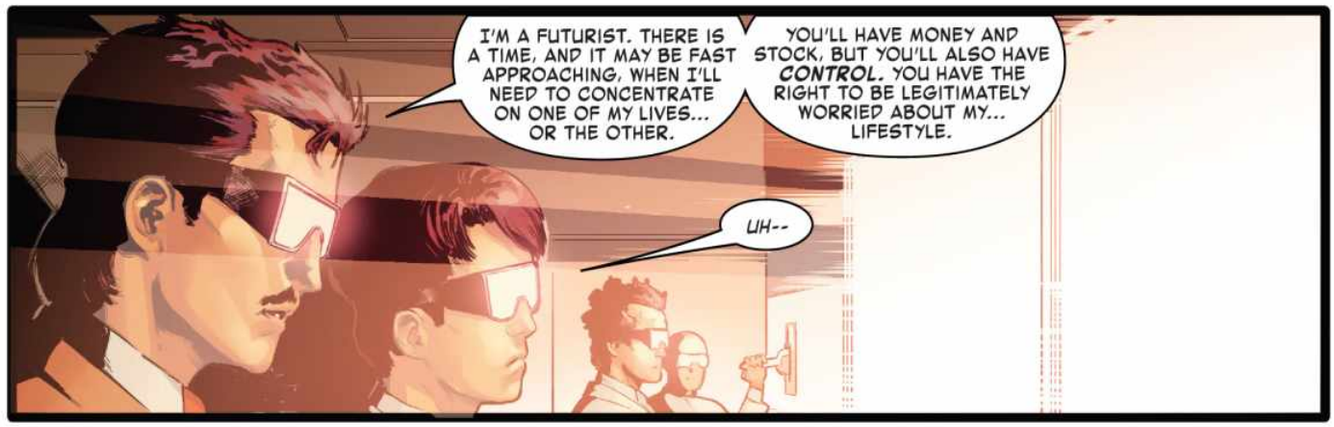
THE HOME OF ZHONG WEI.
A CRIME SCENE.
As an engineer, I always build redundancies. My boot jets fail? Then my stabilizers have enough thrust to land me safely.
As a reformed arms dealer, when you worry about your company backsliding into weapons manufacturing, you look for someone you could install on the board who could speak to your values.
Someone whose moral compass always found true north.
Now my friend is dead. The cops believe he died by suicide with my repulsor technology, and that doesn't even begin to make any sense.
But…he is dead because I treated him
"HEY, YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE."


HEY, YOU HARD OF HEARING? I SAID, "YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE."
DON'T WORRY, I'M TONY STARK.
SIGH
YEARS AGO...


YOU'RE VERY PERSISTENT, MR. STARK.
HOW DID YOU GET IN?
I, UH... LANDED MY "CAR" ON THE ROOF? ACTUALLY, MY BODYGUARD DROPPED ME OFF.


I KNOW YOU'RE A BUSY MAN, ZHONG. I CAME TO MAKE YOU MY LAST AND BEST OFFER TO JOIN THE BOARD OF STARK INTERNATIONAL.

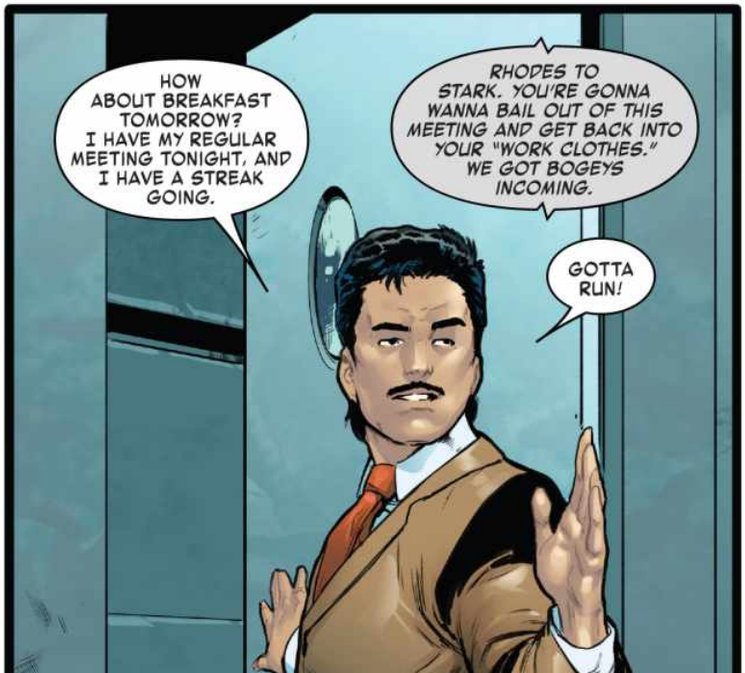

PUT THESE ON. IT'S ABOUT TO FIRE.
XIE XIE.
YOU'RE WELCOME, AND THE ACCENT IS STILL NOT QUITE RIGHT.
I'M TRYING HERE, WEI.


I'M A FUTURIST. THERE IS A TIME, AND IT MAY BE FAST APPROACHING, WHEN I'LL NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON ONE OF MY LIVES... OR THE OTHER.
YOU'LL HAVE MONEY AND STOCK, BUT YOU'LL ALSO HAVE ***CONTROL.*** YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE LEGITIMATELY WORRIED ABOUT MY... LIFESTYLE.
UH--

MOVING ON.
I'M WORKING ON MYSELF, BUT I CAN'T DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO AND WORRY ABOUT THE COMPANY.
AND HONESTLY, SOMEDAY, I SHOULD WORK MYSELF OUT OF A JOB AND LET THE COMPANY GROW BEYOND ME--
--AND WHEN IT DOES, I NEED THE BOARD TO BE COMPRISED OF MULTIPLE PEOPLE I TRUST. ***MORAL*** PEOPLE.

I'M GOING TO RECLAIM MY PATENTS, AND I NEED SOMEONE WHO CAN STAND UP TO BULLIES FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.
I KNOW YOU'RE THE GUY BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN STANDING UP TO A.I.M.

I'M NOT SAYING YES...BUT WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER FOR DINNER TONIGHT? YOU CAN MEET MY FAMILY.


HOW ABOUT BREAKFAST TOMORROW? I HAVE MY REGULAR MEETING TONIGHT, AND I HAVE A STREAK GOING.
RHODES TO STARK. YOU'RE GONNA WANNA BAIL OUT OF THIS MEETING AND GET BACK INTO YOUR "WORK CLOTHES." WE GOT BOGEYS INCOMING.
GOTTA RUN!

Above me at that time were minor players in the first **Armor Wars.**
The Raiders were equipped with my rudimentary designs… and that meant that they were formidable opponents.
HOW COULD WE LOSE IRON MAN? WE ALL SAW HIM HOVERING RIGHT HERE.
ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T. I JUST SAID I DID 'CAUSE YOU SOUNDED SO SURE.
PERHAPS THE RUMORS OF A STEALTH SUIT ARE TRUE? WE NEED TO BE WARY--IF HE FINDS US FIRST, HE'LL RIP THIS STARK TECH RIGHT OFF OUR BODIES.
HEY! HE'S RIGHT THERE--HE'S... HIS BOOT IS STUCK!
RHODEY, WHAT'S YOUR E.T.A.?
WHO SAYS I EVEN HAVE ONE?
FIRST, WE KILL STARK'S BODYGUARD!
THEN WE KILL STARK!
MMMM

FOOM
DAMMIT.
I'M TRYING TO RECRUIT THIS MAN, NOT PUT HIM OUT OF BUSINESS.
MR. STARK ESCAPED. I'M HERE TO MOP UP THESE BUMS!
I'M SURE MR. STARK IS GOOD FOR THE REPAIRS.
I fooled a lot of people with the "Iron Man's bodyguard" routine. But not Zhong.
MY LAB!
AAARGH!
SKRABOOM!

YOU RAIDERS WOULD DO WELL TO JUST LET IRON MAN CHECK THE TAGS ON YOUR GEAR--MAKE SURE THERE'S NONE OF STARK'S TECH IN THERE.
OTHERWISE... THINGS MIGHT GET UNPLEASANT.
NICE HIT, RHODES.
AARGH!
VNZT
The proliferation of what became known as "Stark tech" always

I couldn't be in the air fighting the fight and in the boardroom at the same time. Both were equally important.
THAT IS THE GUY STARK WANTS YOU TO WORK WITH?
KABOOM!!
MY CAR!
BWEEM!
BRAAAP!
SORRY. I THINK I'VE SEEN ONE OF THESE IN STARK'S GARAGE!
I'LL SEND AN ELECTRO-MAIL ABOUT IT AFTER THIS IS OVER.
Rhodey and I stopped the Raiders, I was early for the night's meeting and the next

...I closed the deal for Zhong to join Stark.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T WIN THESE SO-CALLED "ARMOR WARS"--?
I WILL.
HOW CAN I BE SURE OF THAT?
I DID SAY I'M A FUTURIST, RIGHT?

OKAY, LET'S SAY YOU DO TAKE YOUR TECH BACK AND SURVIVE ANY OF THE LAWSUITS THAT WILL SURELY FOLLOW... WHY ME?

BECAUSE OF HOW YOU HANDLED THE TAKEOVER ATTEMPT OF YOUR OLD COMPANY BY ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.

HA. YOU MUST BE JOKING.
THAT RUINED ME. THE COMPANY WENT BANKRUPT. I ALMOST LOST THIS HOUSE. IT WAS A DISASTER.
IN MY TAX BRACKET, THERE ARE DISASTERS AND THEN THERE ARE DISASTERS.

YOUR DISASTER WAS ONLY ONE FOR THE ACCOUNTANTS.

I KNEW WHAT A.I.M. REALLY WANTED THE LASERS FOR.
EXACTLY RIGHT.
THE TECHNOLOGY WE CREATE...IT CAN CAUSE REAL DISASTERS-- FOR PEOPLE.

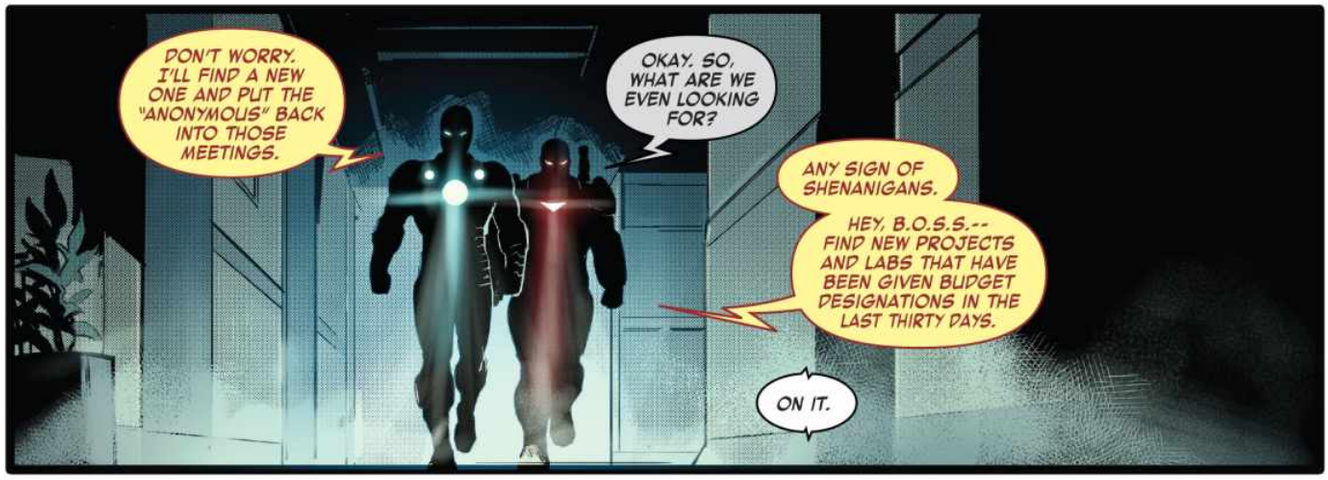
I NEED SOMEONE IN MY CORNER IN THIS CAPITALIST SOCIETY WHO WILL CHOOSE THE RED *INK* INSTEAD OF RED **BLOOD**.

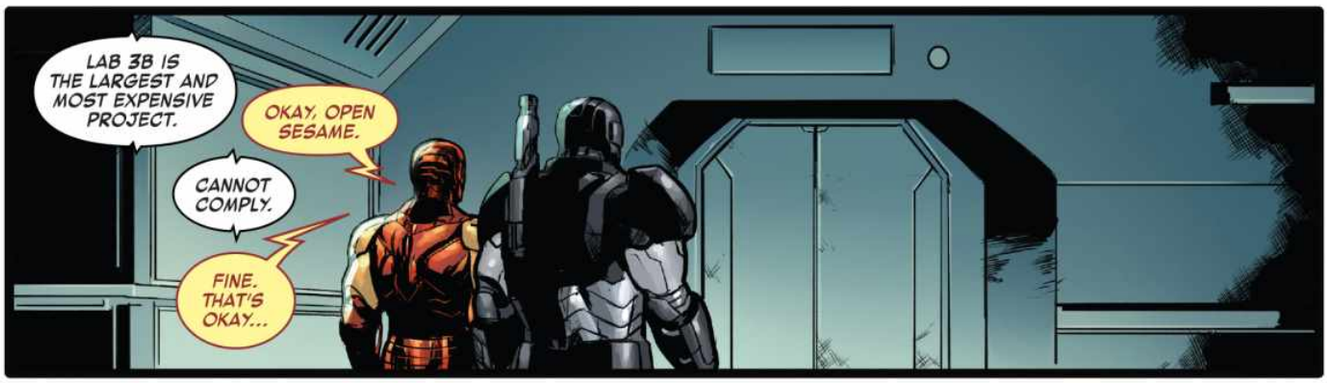
OKAY.
YOU'RE ON.

YOU WON'T REGRET IT...

"...I PROMISE."
DO NOT CROSS
BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, TONY.
WHEN I SAW THE NEWS ABOUT ZHONG, I CAME RIGHT AWAY.
I'M SORRY.
THANKS, RHODEY.
WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?
FLY WITH ME, WAR MACHINE.
THERE'S A HUNCH I HAVE TO CHECK OUT BACK IN NEW YORK CITY.

STARK UNLIMITED?
HEY, MAN, WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO BREAK INTO YOUR OLD COMPANY, ARE WE?
I DON'T KNOW HOW ENCRYPTED MY COMMS ARE RIGHT NOW, SO MAYBE WE SHOULD TREAT THIS AS A PARTY CHAT.
SERIOUSLY?
HOW MUCH TROUBLE ARE YOU IN?
SOMETHING IS VERY ROTTEN IN DENMARK. IT'S NONE OF MY USUAL SUSPECTS EITHER.
I EVEN WENT TO THE GRAVES OF OBADIAH STANE AND THE HAMMERS...
...AND USED GROUND-PENETRATING RADAR TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE STILL DEAD.
YOU WHAT?!
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU WHEN I WOKE UP TODAY, BUT NOW I'M A LITTLE FREAKED OUT. YOU MAKING YOUR AA MEETINGS?
ACTUALLY. NO. NOT SINCE I WAS POISONED

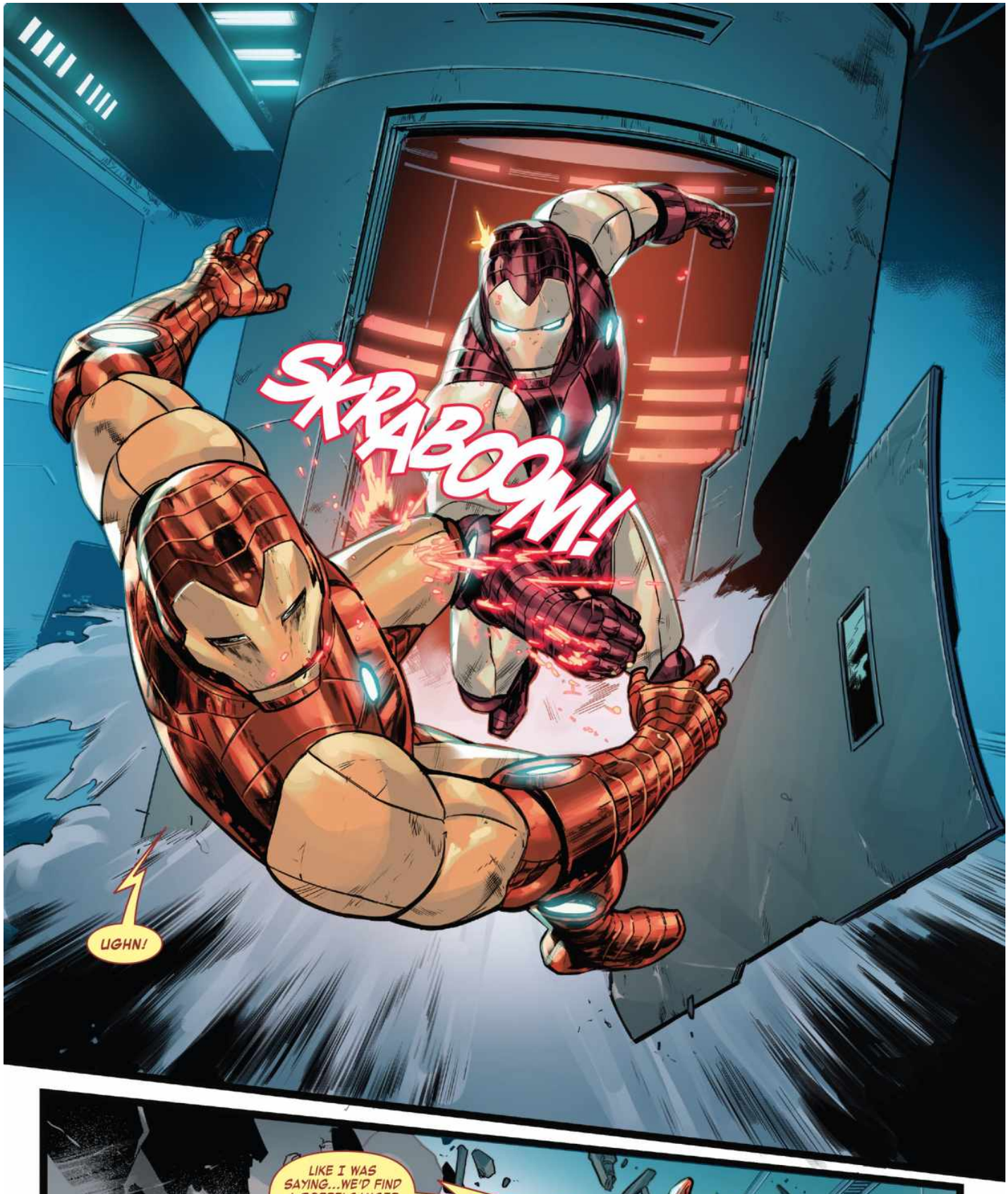

DON'T WORRY. I'LL FIND A NEW ONE AND PUT THE "ANONYMOUS" BACK INTO THOSE MEETINGS.
OKAY. SO, WHAT ARE WE EVEN LOOKING FOR?
ANY SIGN OF SHENANIGANS.
HEY, B.O.S.S.-- FIND NEW PROJECTS AND LABS THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN BUDGET DESIGNATIONS IN THE LAST THIRTY DAYS.
ON IT.


LAB 3B IS THE LARGEST AND MOST EXPENSIVE PROJECT.
OKAY, OPEN SESAME.
CANNOT COMPLY.
FINE. THAT'S OKAY...

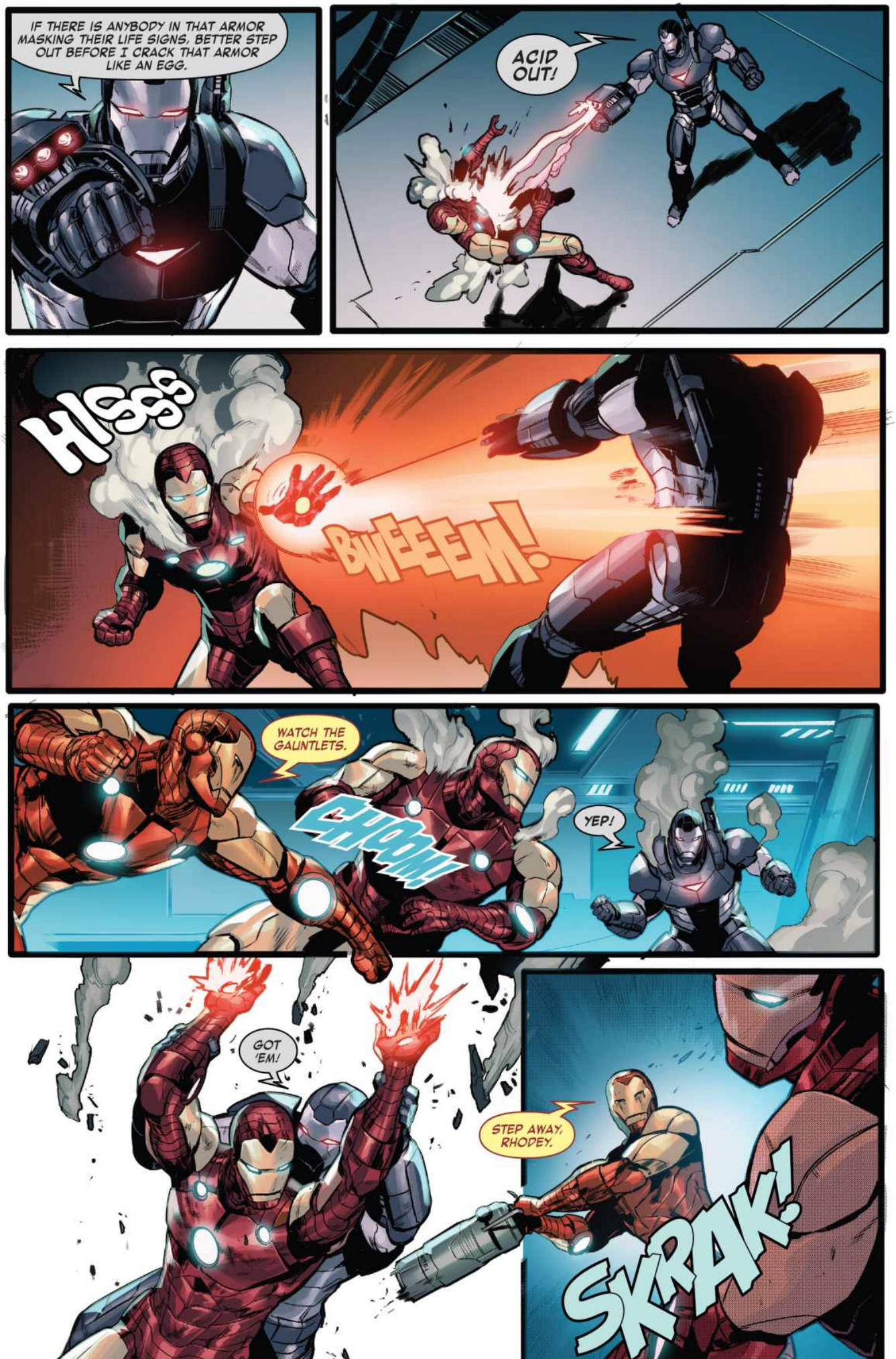
...I BROUGHT MY LOCK-PICK.
BOOM!

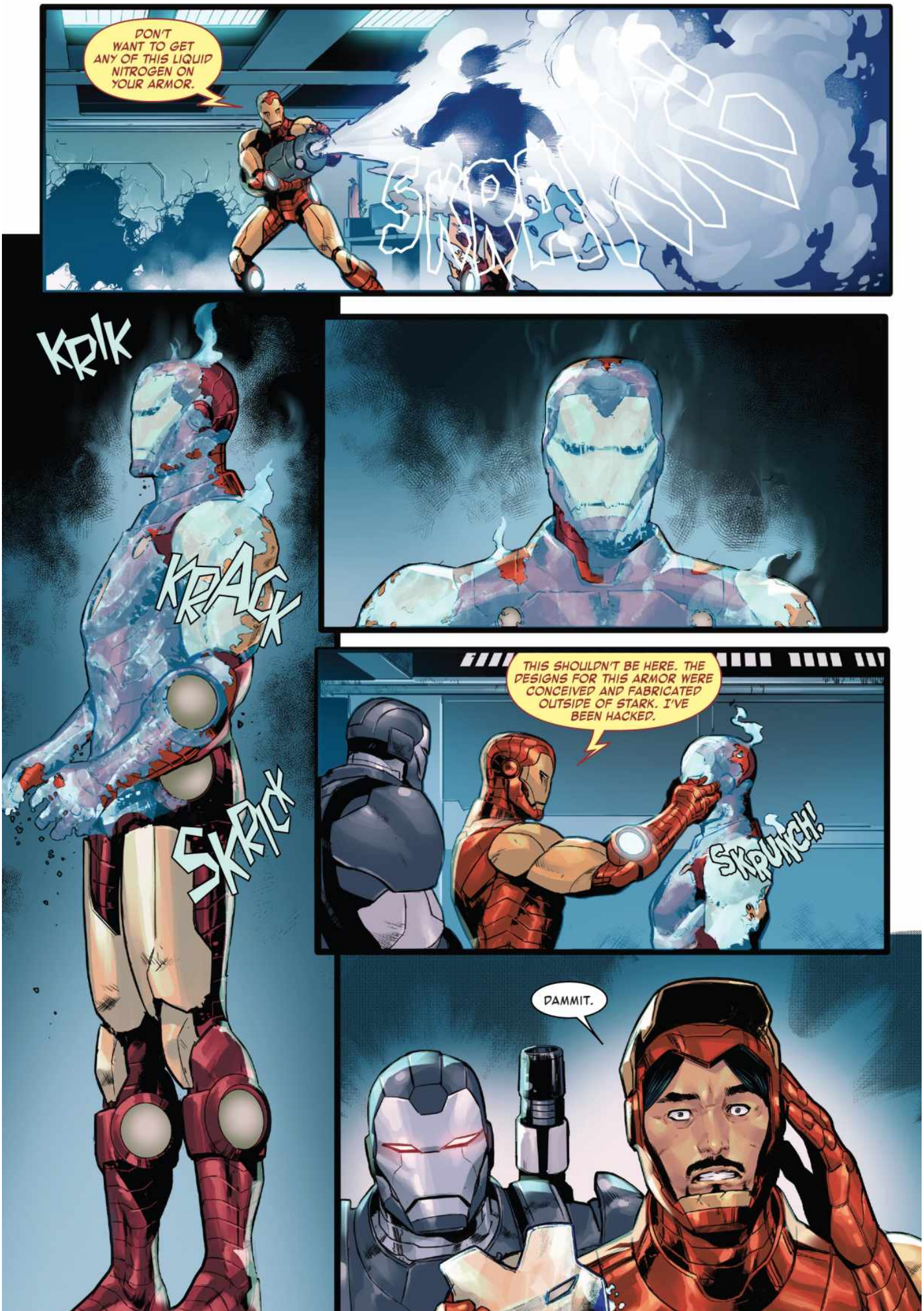
SHOULDN'T THAT HAVE TRIGGERED THE ALARM?

YES... UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
SOMEONE ABDUCTED THE LIVING LASER. MADE HIM THINK IT WAS ME.
IF YOU'RE EXPECTING ANOTHER BODY IN THERE, I HAVE GOOD NEWS...
...OR REALLY BAD NEWS.
NO LIFE SIGNS INSIDE.
I NEED TO KNOW FOR SURE. MY GUESS IS... IT'S A LIFE-MODEL DECOY OF TONY STARK.


SKRABOOM!
UGHN!

LIKE I WAS SAYING...WE'D FIND A DOPPELGANGER ARMOR IN THAT POD.
SKRASHK!


IF THERE IS ANYBODY IN THAT ARMOR MASKING THEIR LIFE SIGNS, BETTER STEP OUT BEFORE I CRACK THAT ARMOR LIKE AN EGG.
ACID OUT!
HISSS
BWEEEEM!
WATCH THE GAUNTLETS.
CHOOM!
YEP!
GOT 'EM!
STEP AWAY, RHODEY.
SKRAK!


DON'T WANT TO GET ANY OF THIS LIQUID NITROGEN ON YOUR ARMOR.
KRIK
KRACK
SKRICK
THIS SHOULDN'T BE HERE. THE DESIGNS FOR THIS ARMOR WERE CONCEIVED AND FABRICATED OUTSIDE OF STARK. I'VE BEEN HACKED.
SKPUNCH!
DAMMIT.

HELLO, TONY. IT MUST BE SO STRANGE FOR YOU TO HEAR ME SPEAK WITH YOUR OWN VOICE.
YOU SPARED MANY LIVES BY DISCOVERING THIS LAB BEFORE I REVEALED IT TOMORROW.
I'LL ADMIT, YOU WERE SO SLOW OUT OF THE GATE THAT I WAS WORRIED YOU'D BE YET ANOTHER BORING DISAPPOINTMENT.
THAT'S THE MOST REALISTIC LIFE-MODEL DECOY I'VE EVER SEEN. AS FAR AS I KNOW.
YEAH. A REAL SKIN JOB.
I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIEND MR. ZHONG. SUICIDE IS ALWAYS SO TRAGIC.
AND SUICIDE WHILE USING A PIECE OF STARK TECH? IT MUST HURT.

YOU MURDERING BASTARD--HE WAS A GREAT MAN--AND HE WAS MY FRIEND!
AND YOU WON'T GET WHAT YOU WANT. THE COMPANY IS SAFE. ZHONG'S SHARES OF MY OLD COMPANY--
--WERE TRANSFERRED TO A CHARITY IN THE DAYS BEFORE HIS UNTIMELY DEMISE.
THOSE SHARES ARE NOW IN PLAY AND HAVE BEEN SOLD SEVERAL TIMES.
I OWN THE COMPANY... THE PATENTS...THE LAND...I OWN IT ALL.

NO.

IF THIS IS SOMEONE NEW... YOU'VE REALLY MANAGED TO PISS THEM OFF IN RECORD TIME.

STARK UNLIMITED IS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT. WE HAVE BIG PLANS.
COME FIND ME...IF YOU CAN. I HAVE A ONE-TIME OFFER TO MAKE YOU.
HAHA!
WE'LL SEE HOW SMART YOU REALLY ARE.
TONY, STEP BACK, THIS THING'S GONNA GO UP.

TONY, COME ON, MAN.
ZHONG WEI WILL BE AVENGED BEFORE THIS IS OVER.
HAHAHA!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, STARK!

WHEN THE BELL RINGS IN THE MORNING-- COME OUT SWINGING.
HAHAHA!
HSSKK1101000101-->

RHODEY, I'M GONNA NEED YOU TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM ME FOR A WHILE.
I KNOW WHO'S BEHIND THIS NOW, AND I NEED TO GO START AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT.

#4: GENIUS, BILLIONAIRE, PLAYBOY. . . MADMAN?!

TONY STARK HAS MET HIS DARK COUNTERPART, AND HIS NAME IS FEILONG! THIS MUTANT-HATING INDUSTRIALIST IS THE NEW OWNER OF STARK UNLIMITED, AND THAT INCLUDES ALL OF TONY'S TECH! CAN A FURIOUS TONY KEEP HIS COOL, OR WILL VENGEANCE GET THE BETTER OF HIM?

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ZONE